HC HANATOYUME COMICS 別冊花とゆめ

Shoujo Sense

Usotoki Rhetoric

by Miyako Ritsu

2

Chapter 6

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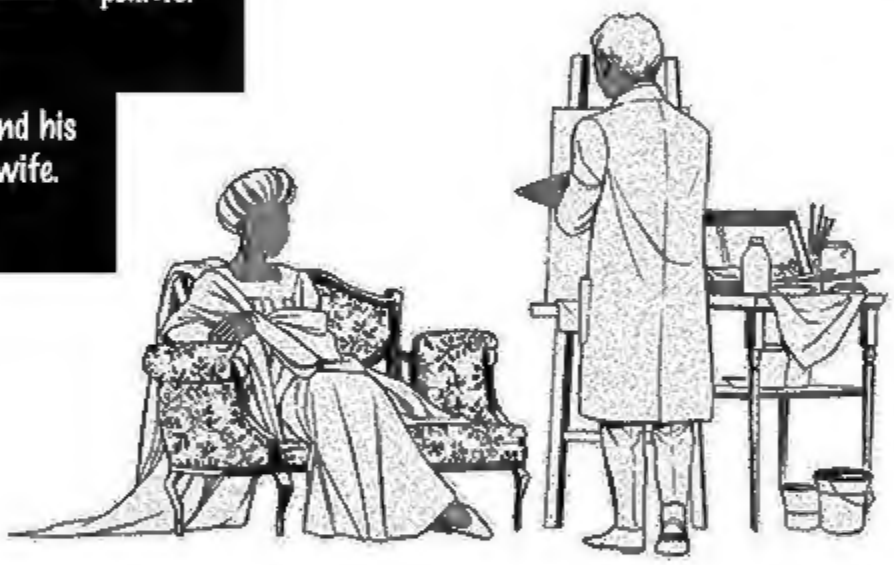
The owner of that western-style house

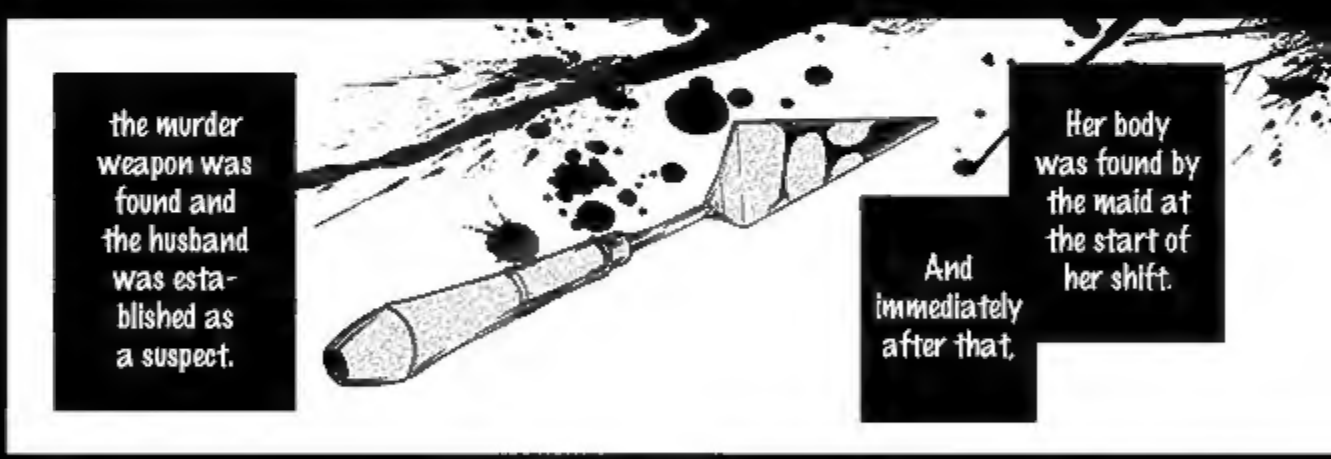
was a European painter

and his wife.



Chapter 6

10 years ago,
the wife was stabbed in the chest.


the murder weapon was found and the husband was established as a suspect.
And immediately after that,
Her body was found by the maid at the start of her shift.

But, until now, they haven't found any trace of him.

SO THE GHOST THAT KANJI-SAN SAW
WAS PROBABLY THE MURDERED WIFE.
This was where she was murdered...
GHOST?
BUT ISN'T IT STRANGE?

I'M GOING INSIDE.
IF YOU'RE SCARED, YOU CAN JUST STAY HERE.
There.
BUT THAT WIFE WAS STABBED, NOT HANGED.
URABE-KUN.
ARE GHOSTS THAT PARTICULAR ABOUT THE DETAILS?
Take this.
STRANGE?
KANJI-SAN SAID THAT THE GHOST'S HEAD WAS HANGING FROM ABOVE.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY "GHOST"?

so I have to go in.
I was the one who wanted to investigate this.
I'M GOING.
WHAT DID YOU MEAN BY "GHOST"?
URA-BE-KUN...
SOU-MA...
LET'S GO.

and quiet.
It's dark
And scary!
SOLIMA.
THE SECOND FLOOR.
LET'S GO TO WHERE KANJI-SAN SAW THE GHOST.

WITH THE MURDER CASE FROM 10 YEARS AGO...?
ARE YOU TELLING ME THAT THIS HAS NOTHING TO DO
THAT KANJI-SAN SAID HE SAW.
OKAY, SO YOU CAME HERE TO FIND THAT GHOST
Nod
DON'T INVOLVE ME WITH YOUR TRES-PASSING CHARGES !!
UMM...
IT'S DANGEROUS TO FIGHT ON THE STAIRS...
THEN WHY DID YOU NEED ME HERE?!
WHAT I SAID WAS THAT MURDER CASE WAS FROM 10 YEARS AGO...
THEN WHY DID YOU TELL ME TO COME BECAUSE YOU HAD "SOMETHING TO TELL ME ABOUT THAT CASE" ?!
Keep Quiet!
I DIDN'T WANT TO GET IN TROUBLE ENTERING SOMEONE ELSE'S HOUSE WITHOUT A POLICEMAN'S SUPPORT...
SFX: CHOKE

KANOKO-KUN?
URABE-KUN?
HYA AAA AAA !!

SFX: SQUEAK
HUWAAAAA!!
Eeeek
Shhh!
Shhh!
SOMEONE'S GONNA FIND OUT WE'RE HERE!!
IT'S JUST A PORTRAIT!
A PORTRAIT!!
HUH?
IT'S THE WIFE'S PORTRAIT.
IT WAS PROBABLY DONE BY HER HUSBAND, WHO WAS A PAINTER.
THE FACE ...
WAS THAT RIPPED OUT SOMETIME AFTER THE CRIME BY SOMEONE WHO TRESPASSED?

LET'S GO.
WAIT, PLEASE.
IF THIS HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH THAT MURDER, THEN I'M GOING HOME!!
THERE'S NO OTHER PAINTING HERE.
SO THIS WAS PROBABLY DONE AROUND THE TIME OF THE MURDER.
IT'S PROBABLY ONE OF THE REASONS THE HUSBAND WAS TAGGED AS A SUSPECT.
CAN YOU HEAR SOMETHING?
HEY, SOUMA ...
HEY,

HEAR THAT?
IT SOUNDS LIKE SOMEONE IN PAIN.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN "SOMETHING"?
HE'S JUST SAYING THAT TO KEEP ME FROM LEAVING
A PERSON'S VOICE?

SFX GWAAAAAHHHH!
hear it
I can
SHHH!! QUIET!
YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO HEAR!
AND WHAT IF WE DO?!
WAIT KAORU
THERE ARE PROBABLY A LOT OF GHOSTS HERE!!
BUT THE GHOST SHOULD BE A WOMAN
I'M GOING HOME!!
I'M GOING HOME!
I DON'T CARE!!
DOESN'T IT SOUND MORE LIKE AN OLD MAN'S VOICE?

SFX PANIC 2X

Don't try and stop me!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, IT'S FINE?!

IT'S ALL FINE IF IT'S JUST A GHOST BUT

WE HAVE TO HELP THEM.

-WOO-

BUT WHAT IF IT'S AN ACTUAL LIVING PERSON?

THEY'RE PROBABLY IN A LOT OF PAIN.

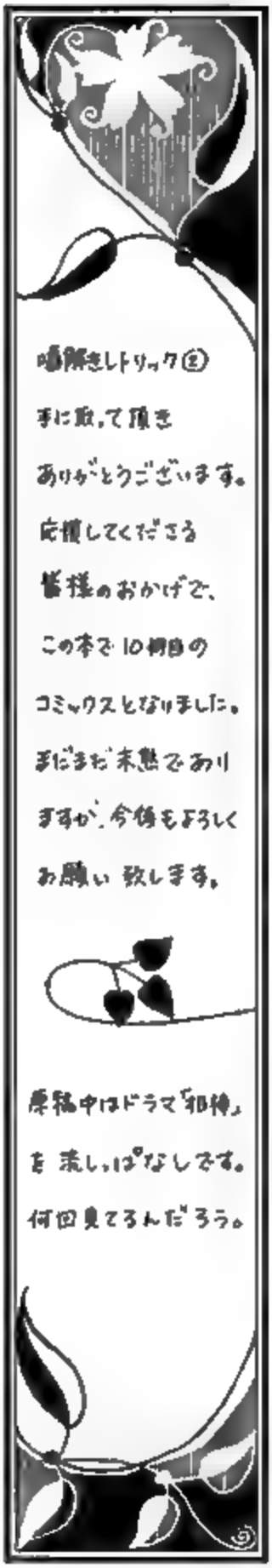
SFX SHARP

しゃきーり

WAIT

LET'S HURRY UP-STAIRS

The room at the far end of the second floor...



喰開きレトリック(2)
手に取って頂き
ありがとうございます。
応援してくださる
皆様のおかげで、
この本で10冊目の
コミックスとなりました。
まだまだ未熟でありますが、今後もよろしくお願い致します。

原稿中はドラマ「相棒」を流しっぱなしです。
何回見てるんだろう。

IT'S THE ROOM WHERE KANJI-SAN SAW THE GHOST
THE VOICE IS COMING FROM THIS ROOM
THAT WAS ENGRAVED AFTER THE MURDER
THE HUSBAND'S SELF-PORTRAIT

THERE'S NO ONE HERE?!
IT REALLY IS A GHOST!
SO DO YOU WANT IT TO BE A GHOST OR NOT?

KANOKO-KUN, COULD YOU HOLD THIS LIGHT IN HERE?
Let's go back Souma
WAH!
IT'S PROB-ABLY THAT
What kind of human could it be?

SFX CLATTER

WHY DO YOU THINK
KANJI-SAN SAW A "HANGING HEAD"?
がたん
Souma
DETECTIVE, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

BUT KANJI-SAN'S DRAWING NEVER MENTIONED A ROPE
BECAUSE THE GHOST WAS PROBABLY HUNG FROM A ROPE IN THE CEILING?
Now that you mention it...
SO SHE WAS PROBABLY THIS HIGH UP
IT ONLY LOOKED LIKE SHE WAS HANGING
BECAUSE HE COULD SEE HER HEAD WAY UP HERE EVEN THOUGH HE WAS STANDING FAR BELOW
THE GHOST THAT KANJI-SAN SAW
WAS STANDING ON THE CHAIR JUST LIKE THIS

I GUESS THERE'S SOMETHING AROUND HERE...
SO IT WASN'T A GHOST?!
WHAT WAS SHE DOING, THEN?!
THERE.
UWAAH!
SFX CLATTER

SEX PASH
IT'S A HIDDEN ROOM!
THE VOICE!
JW
A GAP IN THE WALL
KANOKO-KUN, THE LIGHT!
YES!
HANG IN THERE
WATER
IS ANYONE HERE?
HELP ME

YOU'RE THE ROBBERY SUSPECT!
THAT SCAR ACROSS YOUR FACE ..
IS THERE ANYONE THERE?
can't see
KANOKO-kun.

LOOK.
YOU'RE INJURED.
HELP ME GET HIM OUT OF HERE, SOUMA.
KAORU
GET SOME WATER. EVEN SNOW FROM OUTSIDE IS FINE
BRING IT HERE.
Alone?!
OKAY.
Eeek it's dark

HE'S BEEN HERE ALL ALONG FOR THE PAST 10 YEARS
SO HE COULDN'T HAVE GOTTEN OUT.
SINCE THE SWITCH TO OPEN THIS ROOM IS ON THE CEILING ON THE OTHER SIDE

A MUMMIFIED CORPSE
HE HAS THE SAME TIE AS THE MAN IN THE SELF-PORTRAIT
IT'S THE MISSING HUSBAND

THE WIFE'S MURDERER COULDN'T HAVE BEEN THE HUSBAND.
SO SOMEONE ELSE STABBED HIM AND LOCKED HIM UP HERE

SO IT HAS ONLY BEEN TWO DAYS
I dropped the knife I used to stab that old man.
I was panicking. Then when I bent down to pick it up
IT WAS THE DAY BEFORE YESTER DAY
ROBBED "HIM" AND CAME TO THIS ABANDONED

STAY QUIET!
I threatened her as quickly as I could.
a woman came and saw my face and the murder weapon.
DO YOU WANT ME TO SHOW YOU
A PLACE WHERE YOU'LL NEVER BE FOUND?
She brought me to this house
and then stood on the chair to open the hidden room
And then,
she stabbed me.
Shouja Seiyo

She took all the money I stole
and locked me in this room
It looked like the knife didn't pierce through my vital organs
but I was thirsty and starving so I eventually passed out..
And then...
UWAAHH!
FLAP FLAP
BUT WAS "THAT" WOMAN

THE CURTAINS.
CREAK
IT WAS JUST THE WIND COMING FROM THE BROKEN WINDOW.
THAT SCARED ME...
ruffle
ruff ruff

SFX FLAP

UWAAAH!!
What is it this time?

WHAT IS IT THIS TIME?!
Calm down Hanasaki san.
Ahahaha
THAT DRAWING
THIS DRAWING?
THIS WOMAN IN THE SKETCH ...
IS THIS THE MURDERED WIFE?
THAT'S HER!!

SFX CONFUSION!!
WHY IS THIS DEAD PERSON STILL ALIVE?!
BUT SHE'S SUPPOSED TO BE DEAD!!
THAT JUST MEANS
SFX FWIP
THAT IS THE WOMAN
WHO STABBED ME!
Why is she on the sketch?!
THAT THIS ISN'T THE DEAD WIFE.
DID EVERYTHING.
THIS WOMAN
Hmm this face
THERE'S A LOT OF SKETCHES HERE OF DIFFERENT PEOPLE
THIS IS PROBABLY JUST ONE OF THE HUSBAND'S MODELS.
DID
EVERY-THING?

...
WHAT
...

HOW DO YOU KNOW?

IT'S ALL HER.

What does he mean?

IT ALL MAKES SENSE IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT.

IT ALL STARTED

10 YEARS AGO, IN THIS HOUSE.

THIS WOMAN KNEW ABOUT THAT HIDDEN ROOM AND THE CORPSE INSIDE.

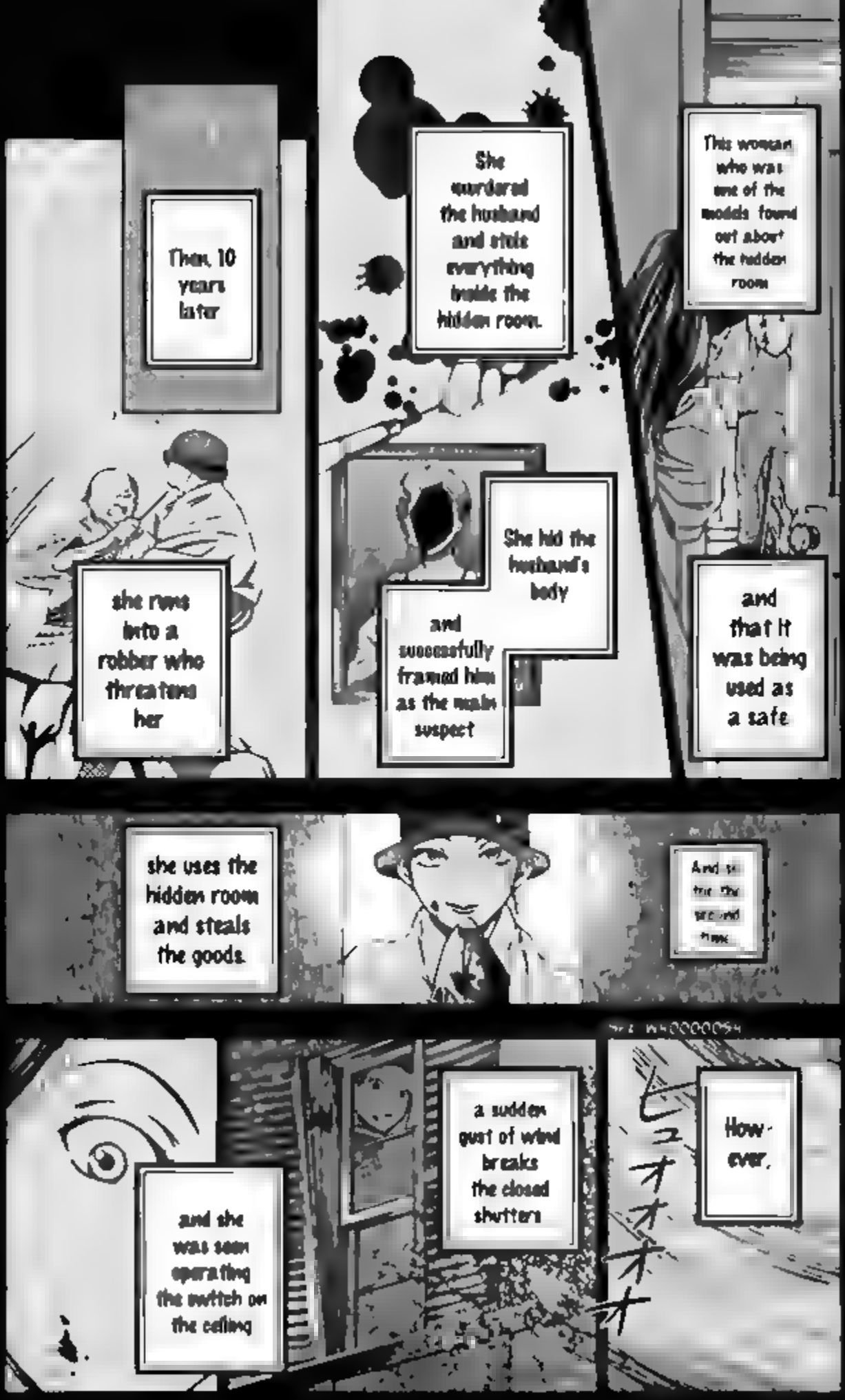
SHE WAS

AND THE MYSTERY WOMAN WHO WENT TO LILY-SAN LOOKING FOR KANJI-SAN.

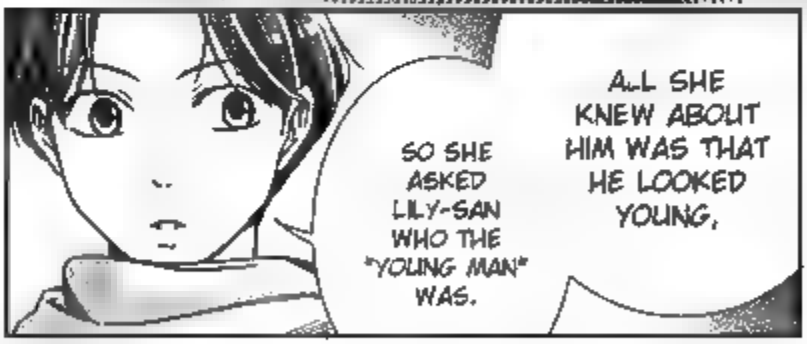
THE WOMAN WHO STABBED THIS ROBBER AND LOCKED HIM UP IN THE HIDDEN ROOM.

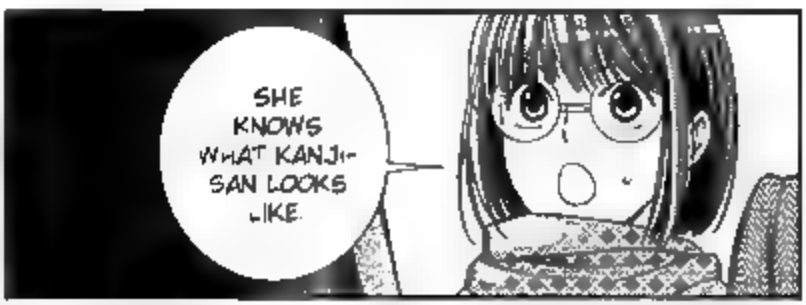
THE GHOST THAT KANJI-SAN SAW BY THE WINDOW

THE MURDERER FROM THAT CASE 10 YEARS AGO


Then, 10 years later
she runs into a robber who threatens her
She murdered the husband and stole everything inside the hidden room.
She hid the husband's body
and successfully framed him as the main suspect
This woman who was one of the models found out about the hidden room
and that it was being used as a safe
she uses the hidden room and steals the goods
And so for the second time
and she was seen operating the switch on the ceiling
a sudden gust of wind breaks the closed shutters
ヒュオオオオ
However,

She couldn't let anyone else find out about the hidden room and cause problems





I DON'T KNOW WHERE OR WHO SHE IS BUT
WE DON'T EVEN KNOW HER NAME
THE ONLY THING WE HAVE NOW IS THIS SKETCH...
AND THERE IS ONE THING SHE FOUND OUT FROM LILY-SAN. .
WE KNOW THAT SHE IS LOOKING FOR KANJI-SAN.
"I just told her that I didn't know his name and that he was just a customer at the cafe."

The next day.
she admitted to all the charges
while she was detained.
!
WE'RE WITH THE POLICE
WE'D LIKE TO ASK YOU SOME QUESTIONS

AND THE ROBBER FROM THE OTHER DAY?'

Lily-san.

The police also talked to her when they were at the cafe,

so she must have found out the truth by now.

Could it be?
LILY-SAN!
Huh?
I don't recall seeing those flowers a while ago...
WERE YOU THE ONE WHO LEFT THE FLOWERS
AREN'T YOU GOING TO SEE KANJI-SAN?
I CAN'T.
NOT AFTER EVERY-THING I SAID TO HIM.
It's not like I ever took you seriously anyway

that

"I don't think Kanji-san is lying!"

the words I said

Thanks to Detective Iwai,

didn't have any power at that time,

are now all the more powerful.

LILY...
ぽそ
SFX. PLOP
I'M SO SORRY, KANJI ..
Just knowing lies when they are said doesn't really give me the power to help someone.
WE'RE INTERRUPTING. WE SHOULD GO

C'mon Kanako-san. Don't be so nosy!
EVERYTHING TURNED OUT WELL.
Okay
he was also the one who gave power to my ability.
The detective
not only took me in,
I feel

We can reuse these.
DID YOU KNOW EVERY-THING RIGHT FROM THE START?
LET'S JUST SAY IT'S THEIR THANKS FOR ME SOLVING THE CASE.
THEY BOTH DIDN'T CARE ABOUT THE FLOWERS ANY-MORE.
so lucky to be here.
THAT THE GHOST KANJI-SAN SAW WAS THE MURDERER FROM 10 YEARS AGO?
WHEN KANJI-SAN TOLD US ABOUT WHAT HE SAW FROM OUT-SIDE THE HOUSE,
I DIDN'T EXPECT THE ROBBER TO BE THERE.
I JUST KNEW THAT THERE WAS GOING TO BE SOMETHING TERRIBLE IN THAT ROOM.
THAT'S SOME WEIRD MOTIVATION...
Waaah
In any case,
AND I THOUGHT THERE WAS GOING TO BE TREASURE INSIDE.
HUH?
YOU TOOK THOSE FLOWERS?

it does bring down the notion
that there was a mysterious ghost there.
I HEARD THEY WERE GOING TO DEMOLISH THE HOUSE
AFTER THE POLICE FINISHES THE INVESTIGATION.
Here, take this too
IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE A HAUNTED HOUSE ANYMORE WHEN YOU LOOK AT IT IN MIDDAY WITH SO MANY PEOPLE INSIDE.

THERE REALLY WERE NO GHOSTS.
BUT IT WAS ALL BECAUSE OF LIVING PEOPLE.
SO MANY SPOOKY THINGS HAPPENED,

ONLY TO RUN INTO A ROBBER ON THE SAME DAY. ISN'T THAT A HUGE COINCIDENCE?
SHE CAME ALL THE WAY HERE,
THAT WOMAN CAME BACK TO TSUKUMOYA AFTER 10 YEARS.
I WONDER ...

AND THEN WE ALSO HAPPENED TO START INVESTIGATING.
AND THEN KANJI-SAN JUST HAPPENED TO BE PASSING BY AT THE SAME TIME.
BY PURE CHANCE, A STRONG GUST OF WIND BLOWS AND BREAKS THE WINDOW
JUST AS SHE WAS OPERATING THE SWITCH ON THE CEILING.
IT IS...
THE COINCIDENCES JUST KEEP PILING UP.
AND THE FACT THAT KANJI-SAN AND THE MURDERED HUSBAND BOTH HAD THE SAME JOB.
THE FACT THAT WE ALSO FOUND HER SKETCH WAS ALSO A COINCIDENCE.
IT'S LIKE

I'M NOT. HE'S JUST GONNA GET HIMSELF INTO MORE TROUBLE.
I DON'T THINK YOU SHOULD TELL THAT TO HANASAKI-SAN.
SOMEONE REALLY WANTED US TO SOLVE IT.
ON PAINTING: MURDERER
CHAPTER 6 / END